

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00360 111716Z

14

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 ACDA-05 OMB-01 IO-11 AID-05 /088 W

----- 031383

R 111440Z FEB 76

FM AMEMDASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2816

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AO, XF, US, ZA

SUBJECT: ZAMBIAN DAILY ACCUSES US OF "LACK OF POLICY" TOWARD
AFRICA

1. SUMMARY. IN EDITORIAL WHICH COULD REFLECT MISREADING OF REUTERS
REPORT OF STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO PRESIDENTIAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ADVISER MARK CHONA WHEN VISITING WASHINGTON, ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL HAS
ACCUSED USG OF HAVING NO DEFINITE OR CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD POLICY ON
AFRICA. WE ARE TOLD EDITORIAL DOES NOT REALLY REFLECT GRZ POLICY
BUT WE NEVERTHELESS HAVE TAKEN STEPS TO ASSURE MAIL EDITOR-IN-CHIEF,
AND AS MANY OTHER ZAMBIAN OFFICIALS AND OPINION MAKERS AS
POSSIBLE, UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS AN OVERALL USG POLICY TOWARD
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PAGE 02 LUSAKA 00360 111716Z

AFRICA, THAT IT IS VIABLE, AND THAT IT IS A CONSTRUCTIVE ONE.

END SUMMARY.

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. GOVERNMENT-OWNED ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL ON FEB 11 CARRIED REUTERS STORY FROM WASHINGTON QUOTING VISITING FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISER TO PRESIDENT KAUNDA, MARK CHONA, AS ACCUSING USG OF APATHY TOWARD SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS BECAUSE AMERICAN PRIVATE INVESTMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA STAND IN WAY OF US ASSISTANCE TO BLACK PEOPLES OF THE REGION. CHONA REPORTEDLY SAID THAT IF USG CONTINUES TO TURN DEAF EAR TO AFRICAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS, IT SHOULD NOT BE SURPRISED WHEN LATTER TURN TO COMMUNIST POWERS FOR HELP. CHONA SAID HE HAD BRIEFED AMERICAN OFFICIALS ON ZAMBIAN STAND TOWARD ANGOLA AND SOUTHERN AFRICA AS A WHOLE. ADDED THAT IN HIS TALKS WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER AND WITH SENATOR TUNNEY HE HAD APPEALED NOT FOR US ARMS OR MERCENARIES FOR ANGOLA BUT FOR USG TO USE AS MUCH PRESSURE AS POSSIBLE ON SOVIETS AND CUBANS TO END THEIR INTERVENTION AND ALSO FOR USG MAKE ANGOLANS THEMSELVES AWARE THAT SUCH MASSIVE SOVIET MILITARY AID CANNOT BE WITHOUT STRINGS.

3. IN ACCOMPANYING EDITORIAL, MAIL ASSERTED THAT USG LACKS DEFINITE AFRICAN POLICY IN CONTRAST TO OTHER REGIONS OF WORLD (MIDEAST, EUROPE, SOVIET UNION SPECIFIED) WHERE USG POLICY IS CLEAR AND WELL KNOWN. "THE AMERICANS (TODAY) DO NOT HAVE ANY POLICY IN AFRICA. AND BECAUSE OF THIS LACK ... AFRICAN COUNTRIES DO NOT KNOW WHERE USG STANDS TODAY ON ISSUES THAT AFFECT AFRICA. AND THIS IS DESPITE FACT THAT THERE ARE TODAY MANY ISSUES WHICH AFFECT AFRICA ON WHICH THE AFRICANS WANT AN AMERICAN CLEAR-CUT POLICY." EDITORIAL GOES ON TO ALLEGE US "WAS CAUGHT NAPPING" BY ANGOLA BECAUSE OF LACK OF POLICY AND CLAIMS AFRICANS DO NOT KNOW WHAT USG POLICY IS TOWARD SPANISH SAHARA AND FTAL/SOMALI DISPUTES. ARGUING THAT ANGOLAN WAR HAS "PUT PAID" TO ANY HOPES OF RESOLVING POLITICAL PROBLEMS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA PEACEFULLY, EDITORIAL CALLS ON USG TO "GET OFF THE FENCE" AND TO DRAW UP POLICY THAT WILL ENABLE AMERICANS TO PLAY CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. END UNCLASSIFIED

4. IMMEDIATELY UPON READING MAIL THIS MORNING, I TELEPHONED PAPER'S EDITOR-IN-CHIEF VINCE MIJONI TO PROTEST ALLEGATION THAT WE HAVE NO CLEAR AFRICAN POLICY. AFTER I SPELLED OUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 LUSAKA 00360 111716Z

US POLICIES IN AFRICA AND ANGOLA, MIJONI READILY ADMITTED PERHAPS HE HAD BEEN MISLED IN DISCUSSING QUESTION "WITH FRIENDS OF AMERICA" (FORMER LEADER GRANTEES AND MP'S). LATER WHEN MIJONI CAME BY RESIDENCE AT NOON FOR ADDITIONAL BRIEFING, HE AGAIN HALF-APOLOGIZED FOR EQUATING CONGRESSIONAL RESTRAINTS WITH NO POLICY AT ALL, WHEN IN FACT HE SHOULD HAVE ARGUED THAT DEFINITE POLICY WAS FAILING OF IMPLEMENTATION BECAUSE OF US CONGRESS.

5. ALSO THIS MORNING I RECEIVED CALL FROM MY YUGOSLAV COLLEAGUE WHO HAD JUST COME AWAY FROM MEETING WITH FONMIN BANDA. YUGOSLAV SAID BANDA HAD EXPRESSED SOME SURPRISE OVER MAIL EDITORIAL, COMMENTING THAT IT WAS NOT REFLECTING GRZ POLICY.

6. CAN DEPT PROVIDE US WITH TRANSCRIPT OR DETAILED REPORT OF CHONA REMARKS IN WASHINGTON REPORTED BY REUTERS?
WILKOWSKI

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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